

his house or plantation, to be recovered before a single justice of the peace, as small debts are, if the sum does not exceed one hundred dollars—and if such sum exceeds one hundred dollars, then the same may be recovered by action of debt, or by indictment, in the Circuit Court for the county where the offence was committed, one-half to be paid to the State, and the other half to the owner of such slave.

15. If any slave shall be guilty of the offence mentioned in the preceding section, he shall be punished by whipping.

16. If any slave shall travel by land or water ten miles from the house of his master, without a note under his hand, or under the hand of his overseer, he may be arrested and committed as a runaway.

17. Any person who shall encourage slaves to meet in companies on his plantation, unless on lawful occasions, shall forfeit and pay for every offence twenty dollars.

DEALING WITH SLAVES.

18. No person shall purchase or acquire by barter, exchange or gift, from any slave, any goods or chattels of any description, without the permission in writing of the owner, employer or overseer of such slave.

19. No person shall sell to any slave any goods or chattels whatever, without the permission in writing of the master, employer or overseer of such slave.

20. Any person who shall violate the provisions of either of the last two preceding sections, shall on conviction thereof before a justice of the peace of the city or county where the offence is committed, be fined five dollars, one-half to the county or city and the other half to the informer.

21. Any slave selling liquor, or keeping entertainment, at any muster ground or other public place without the permission in writing of his owner, may be apprehended and punished in the discretion of any justice of the peace, not exceeding twenty lashes.